



Church Road, Lydney  
 Gloucestershire, GL15 5DZ  
 T: 01594 843202  
 F: 01594 842025  
 E: [info@thedeacademy.org](mailto:info@thedeacademy.org)  
[www.thedeacademy.org](http://www.thedeacademy.org)

Hannah Rowlands: Headteacher

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Over the past few years, we have successfully introduced **Period 6** after-school sessions to support Year 11 students in preparing for their GCSE examinations. Following careful reflection, we have refined the programme to give students greater independence while ensuring it continues to deliver strong results.

**Period 6** will run weekly from **Monday to Thursday, 15:15–16:15**, from the week beginning **15<sup>th</sup> September**. Each afternoon, a range of subjects will be available, giving students the opportunity to work with subject specialists. During these sessions, students will revisit key lesson content, strengthen their revision techniques, and practise applying their knowledge to exam-style questions.

Extensive research shows that students who attend regular, additional intervention sessions make **significantly more** progress than those who do not. At the same time, we recognise the importance of protecting students' wellbeing by avoiding excessive study demands. For this reason, **Period 6** sessions are **optional**. While your child will be strongly encouraged to attend, we believe it is important to trust them to make the decision that best supports their learning.

To celebrate commitment, every student who takes part will receive '*Embrace the Geek*' cards, enjoy baked treats, and collect stamps on their **Period 6 loyalty card**. Ten stamps will earn them a special award.

We are also delighted to share the new **Period 6 timetable** below. Many staff have generously offered their time to deliver these sessions, all with the shared aim of supporting students to achieve their very best. Please note additional sessions for other subjects may be added as term progresses and we will update students accordingly.

Monday	Product Design Maths (Mrs Weaver or Mrs Turner) Maths (Mrs D'Costa) Spanish
Tuesday	Maths (Mr Swain) English Art Engineering
Wednesday	Geography Maths (Mrs Meredith) Music Business PE
Thursday	History Maths (Mr Swain) Computer Science Philosophy (Week A)



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We understand that for a minority of students they will require transport home. If you are unable to sort out alternative transport for your child, the Dean Academy will provide transport home via minibus. If you know your child will need transport regularly, please contact [info@thedeanacademy.org](mailto:info@thedeanacademy.org) to help us with our planning. If it is an irregular occurrence, your child can sign up to the minibus via our Resources Centre. Please note that the minibus can become full, and so we advise your child to sign up in advance rather than on the day.

If you have any questions about Period 6 or the year ahead, please contact Tom Fessey, Raising Standards Leader ([tfessey@thedeanacademy.org](mailto:tfessey@thedeanacademy.org)).

If your child plans to attend Period 6, whether regularly or not, please complete the attached reply slip and hand back to your child's tutor.

Yours sincerely,

**Tom Fessey**

Assistant Headteacher & Raising Standards Leader

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**Period 6 Afterschool club**

I give permission for my child ..... to attend the Year 11 Period 6.

Student Name: ..... Tutor Group: .....

Signed: ..... Date: .....

Parent/Carer



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